GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2467
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2007
MINING LEASE
Goel Shri Surendra Prakash

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have been given powers u/s 11((2) and 11(5) of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 to grant prospecting licences/Mining leases out of turn/on preferential basis without the prior approval of Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the applicants who have been given mining leases during each of the last three years, till date;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to amend the provisions of MMDR Act, 1957 to ensure that allotment on preferential basis is fair and evaluation of capabilities are considered on merits; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY)

(a): As per Section 11 (5) of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act), the State Government may, for any special reasons to be recorded, grant mineral concession to an applicant whose application was received later in preference to an applicant whose application was received earlier. However in case of minerals mentioned in the First Schedule of the MMDR Act, prior approval of Central Government is necessary.

(b): Details of prior approval conveyed by Central Government to State Governments after invoking provisions of Section 11(5) of the MMDR Act, 1957 during the last three years till date are given below:-

S.No. Name of the applicant Date of approval

1. M/s Kerala Rare Earths & Minerals Ltd. 30.6.2004
2. M/s Kerala Rare Earths & Minerals Ltd. 30.6.2004
3. M/s Kerala Rare Earths & Minerals Ltd. 30.6.2004
4. M/s Kerala Rare Earths & Minerals Ltd. 30.6.2004
5. M/s Orissa Mining Corporation Ltd. 13.9.2004
6. M/s HINDALCO Industires Ltd. 20.4.2005
7 M/s Kerala Rare Earths & Minerals Ltd. 21.6.2005
8. M/s Kerala Rare Earths & Minerals Ltd. 21.6.2005
9. M/s Kerala Rare Earths & Minerals Ltd. 21.6.2005
10. M/s Puntambekar Minerals 30.6.2005
11. M/s Balaji Industires Products Ltd. 11.7.2005
12. M/s Prasad Group Resources Pvt. Ltd. 16.8.2005
13. M/s AML Steel & Power Ltd. 16.8.2005
14. M/s Niranjan Hi-Tech Ltd. 16.8.2005
15. M/s Jagadamba Power & Alloys Ltd. 14.12.2005
16. M/s Goa Minerals Pvt. Ltd. 9.3.2006
17. The Central India Mining and Marketing Corporation 13.3.2006
18. M/s Gopani Iron and Power (India) Pvt. Ltd. 01.06.2006
19. Shri Dharmendra Dubey 29.06.2006
20. M/s Shivalika Minerals 24.07.2006

(c) & (d) : Provisions already exist under Section 11(3) of the MMDR Act, 1957 for fair evaluation of capabilities on merits while granting mineral concessions.